GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1647
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
FARAKKA BARRAGE
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is losing vast area of land to Bangladesh every year due to Farakka Project and soil erosion caused by river Ganga;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have discussed this matter with Bangladesh;

(d) if so, when and the results thereof; and

(e) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) Being a meandering river, soil erosion and shoal formation due to silt deposition naturally takes place year to year along the banks of Ganga. It has been reported that shoal formation has taken place on Bangladesh side of the river in recent years. However this has nothing to do with Farakka Barrage and this issue has not been discussed with Bangladesh.

(e) State Government of West Bengal has undertaken preventive measures in critical reaches to hold the bank line from shifting. Government of India has also assisted the State Government in this regard from time to time.